

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

9/24/65

11/17/65

FEDERAL BUREAU

Declassified
Authority: RD 36283
By: James Mathis
Date: 02-06-2014

of

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

100-379394

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/21/05 BY 34562/SPR/pjg

See also Nos.

DO NOT DESTROY;
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Miller, 2/7/64

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-698

Volume Number

Serials 207-4-255

FBI

Date: 6/10/77

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Precedence)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-117194)
(62-117193)

(Attention: WILLIAM D. BREDEWEG)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (62-2971) (P)

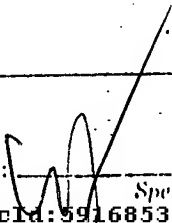
SUBJECT: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY,
ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
(CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185)
Bufile: 62-117194SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE (SCLC) V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY,
ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186
Bufile: 62-117193
Buded: 6/15/77THIS FILE IS NOT TO BE DESTROYED
UNLESS ADVISED BY THE BUREAU.
KEEP AS PER SERIAL.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc.3)
(2) - Atlanta
(1 - 62-2971)
(1 - 157-698)(Volume 4)

LWF/bw

(4)

bw

Approved: 

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

Re Bureau airtel to Albany, copies to all offices, 2/17/77; Bureau airtel to Atlanta, Detroit, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Newark, New York, Sacramento, Savannah, and WFO, 4/12/77.; and Bureau telephone call to Atlanta, 5/9/77.

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of an inventory list which sets forth the identity of Atlanta communications that the Atlanta Office is forwarding to FBIHQ as an enclosure to this airtel in connection with captioned matter.

In addition, two copies of this inventory list itself are being enclosed for recipient offices.

Referenced Bureau airtel of 2/17/77, advised of the dismissal of both civil actions in captioned matter, but per a court order, the Bureau requested each office to transmit to FBIHQ all known copies of tape recordings, transcripts and logs resulting from the FBI's microphonic and telephonic surveillances between 1963 and 1968 of the plaintiff organization's former president; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; his home; places of public accomodation occupied by him and of the plaintiff organization's offices in Atlanta, Georgia, and New York City, New York. FBIHQ subsequently advised that only the tapes, transcripts and logs should be sent to FBIHQ and not communications that included paraphrases of these elsur.

Atlanta had an electronic surveillance (elsur) on the residence of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., Atlanta, Georgia, and the Atlanta SCLC Office from approximately 1963-1966.

Atlanta had no known tapes or transcripts of any of these elsur, but Atlanta did have logs which contained information from these elsur and these logs were sent to FBIHQ by Atlanta on 3/14/77 for inclusion in the National Archives.

Referenced Buairtel of 4/12/77, then instructed recipients that the Department had advised that to comply with the court order in this matter it would now be necessary to locate paraphrases of this elsur information that was included in communications.

AT 62-2971

As a result, FBIHQ and recipient offices are requested to review the enclosed inventory list and then locate and retrieve the copies of Atlanta communications designated for FBIHQ and each office. All copies are to be retrieved and sent to FBIHQ, Attention: Mr. WILLIAM D. BREDEWEG, and in addition, send two copies of an inventory list of these retrieved Atlanta communications to FBIHQ.

INVENTORY LIST

Re: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

There is set forth below an inventory of the Atlanta communications that are being forwarded to FBI Headquarters (FBIHQ) by Atlanta in connection with captioned matter for inclusion in the National Archives. These communications contained paraphrased electronic surveillance (elsur) information obtained through the Atlanta elsur on the residence of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., Atlanta, Georgia, and/or the Atlanta SCLC Office during the 1960's.

These communications were taken from Atlanta file 157-698, Volume 4, and where these communications showed dissemination to Atlanta files, all these copies have been retrieved and are attached as enclosures to the serial listed below, which is being sent to FBIHQ:

- 1) Serial 238 of Atlanta file 157-698, which is Atlanta airtel with LHM to FBIHQ, 10/21/65, captioned, "COMINFIL OF SCLC, IS-C", "RACIAL SITUATION, NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI, RM", copies designated as follows:
 - 4 - Bureau (3 - 100-438794)(SCLC)(Enc.9)
(1 - RACIAL SITUATION, NATCHEZ, MISS)
 - 2 - Jackson (Enc.2)
 - 5 - Atlanta (1 - 100-5718)(SCLC)
(1 - 157-1277)(RACIAL SITUATION, NATCHEZ, MISS)
(1 - 100-6670A)
(1 - 157-698)(RANDOLPH BLACKWELL)
(1 - 100-6720)(A. R. SAMPSON)

(Item 1 previously retrieved by Atlanta; FBIHQ and other offices previously requested to locate their copies. Atlanta unable to locate initially.)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, (157-698)

DATE: 4/29/77

FROM SA Edward A. Shea

SUBJECT: Randolph Blackwell

As per instructions of a court order in the case captioned "BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, et al (U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 76-1185 and SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC) V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, et al (U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 76-1186", the following serials have been removed from this file and sent to FBIHQ for inclusion in the National Archives:

[illegible]

No. of copies _____

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-438794)

10/19/65

SAC, ATLANTA (100-5718)

COMMINFIL OF SCLC
IS - C

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated 9/16/65 captioned as above which forwarded a request received from the BVD of Netherlands relating to training material or directives of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

There is enclosed herewith for the Bureau 9 copies of an LHM setting forth results of file review relating to KING's principles and reasons for the non-violent approach utilized in conjunction with SCLC. One copy of this LHM is to be furnished Legat, Bonn for transmittal to BVD, Netherlands.

Source one is Dr. GERALD REED, 1343 Peachtree St., N. E., Atlanta, Ga.

All pertinent data set forth in this LHM was excerpts from the publication "The SCLC Story in Words and Pictures" which was available to the public at the price of \$1.00 per copy which was copyrighted in 1963.

~~The enclosed LHM is classified Confidential because unauthorized disclosure of the contents of this LHM could seriously jeopardize the Bureau's investigative interest in subject KING and the SCLC.~~

- 2 - Bureau (RM) (Enc. 9)
- 4 - Atlanta (1 - 100-5718)
 - (1 - 100-5586) (MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.)
 - (1 - 157-698) (EDWARD CLAYTON)
 - (1 - 157-639) (DOROTHY COTTON)

AFM:cmp

(6) *CW*

*Enclosure
declassified
98*

CW
157-698-231



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Atlanta, Georgia
October 19, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE

Atlanta confidential sources have been unable to furnish or make available copies of training material utilized by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in projecting the ideas and thinkings of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

In a pamphlet published by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) depicting "The SCLC Story" which was published in 1964, basic ideas and convictions are set forth which obviously portray some of the ideas and teachings of SCLC which would have been projected to employees and workers on behalf of the SCLC. In this pamphlet which was edited by EDWARD T. CLAYTON, Public Relations Director, SCLC, an editorial note explained that the work of the SCLC was one of determination, sacrifice and dedication A passion for unqualified freedom through the moral fibre of non-violence and tenets of Christianity became the great task of SCLC.

Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. is quoted in this publication as follows:

"In these turbulent days of uncertainty the evils of war and of economic and racial injustice threaten the very survival of the human race. Indeed we live in a day of grave crisis. Yet, I am convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that the philosophy of nonviolence will redeem the soul of America. There is a great temptation to accept nonviolence solely as a strategy, a device; this we must guard against.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080

ON 11-30-77

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~GROUP 1~~
~~Excluded from Automatic~~ PER BU R/S 12-1-77
~~Downgrading and Declassification~~ 98

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

"This is one of the chief aims of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference: to broadly disseminate through intensive training the heart of nonviolence, that our commitment to nonviolence will not only be a technique, but shall become for us a way of life with love and redemption as its center. Another chief aim of SCLC is in the area of voter registration. Here again it must be recognized that the right and proper use of the ballot is vital in our struggle for first-class citizenship."

This publication also carried an article written by L. D. REDDICK, Historian, SCLC, setting forth the history of SCLC and its development. In this article REDDICK pointed out that at the founding of SCLC it was agreed that civil rights were essential to Democracy and that the Negro should reject segregation absolutely but in a non-violent manner. The composition of the board of the SCLC in its founding convention reflected a strong church orientation of the organization, along with a sprinkling of intellectuals, laborites and lawyers. Dr. REDDICK identified the aims and purposes of SCLC as follows:

- "1. To achieve full citizenship rights, and total integration of the Negro in American life.
- "2. To stimulate nonviolent direct mass action to remove the barriers of segregation and discrimination.
- "3. To disseminate the creative philosophy and techniques of nonviolence through local and area workshops.
- "4. To secure the right and unhampered use of the ballot for every citizen.
- "5. To reduce the cultural lag through the Citizenship Training Program."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Another article appearing in this publication by DOROTHY COTTON, Director, Citizenship School, SCLC, cites as one of the necessary factors in the program of the SCLC is to build a program around mass non-violent direct action and to prepare "soldiers" for the non-violent Army. In order to do this it is necessary to prepare these individuals as follows:

"Gathering Facts Before engaging in nonviolent direct action, we must have detailed facts about the unjust situation against which we are protesting. A nonviolent campaign must never be based on mere opinion and hearsay.

"Education Once all the facts and figures are known this information must be disseminated throughout the community involved. One goal of a nonviolent movement is to gain understanding, sympathy, and support for the changes we seek. In order to achieve this, the people (white and Negro) must be informed.

"Negotiation Nonviolent resistance to injustice presupposes the desire to win opponents to our cause, not to conquer or overthrow. We, therefore, talk directly with persons in charge of areas of our grievances before any action is taken.

"Purification Spiritual preparation is mandatory for those who would participate in Christian nonviolent direct action. Preparation requires studying nonviolence in workshops, role-playing, and making a commitment. When actual love is felt for our opponents, a direct-action campaign is then begun.

"Direct Action We show our love and dedication to truth by presenting our very bodies in places not opened to us. By such acts we confront segregationists with the issues and ourselves, and they are forced to make a decision. By such acts, we accept suffering rather than inflict suffering.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

"Reconciliation Our white brothers often find it painful to change the teachings and habits of a lifetime. The nonviolent resister understands this pain and through love helps them to accept the new way of life. He is active in making the transition as easy and painless as possible.

"Direct action projects must always be nonviolent, for the goals we seek by such action are "pre-existent in the means". The ends we seek for our nation and for ourselves are love, justice and peace. There can be no love tomorrow without loving men today; there can be no justice without just men; there can be no peace in the end without peaceful men. The legions of the nonviolent disciple will only grow if we are able to love regardless of the cost. The cost of Jesus Christ was the cross. That cross, its cost and implications, holds our confidence and our future as free men."

There is also quoted in this pamphlet excerpts of a letter allegedly prepared by Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. when confined to jail at Birmingham, Alabama. This letter was written in answer to a letter prepared by eight white clergymen who publicly criticized KING for unwise and untimely demonstrations. KING, in answering this letter, sets forth some of his moral justifications for acts on the part of SCLC and pertinent portions of this letter are as follows:

"In your statement you asserted that our actions, even though peaceful, must be condemned because they precipitate violence. Isn't this like condemning the robbed man because his possession of money precipitated the evil act of robbery? Isn't this like condemning Socrates because his unswerving commitment to truth and his philosophy delvings precipitated the misguided popular mind to make him drink the hemlock? Isn't this like condemning Jesus because his unique God-consciousness and never-ceasing devotion to God's will precipitated the evil act of the Crucifixion?

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

"The question is not whether we will be extremist but what kind of extremist will we be. Will we be extremists for hate or will we be extremists for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice - or will we be extremists for the cause of justice? In that dramatic scene on Calvary's hill, three men were crucified for the same crime - the crime of extremism. Two were extremists for immorality, and thus fell below their environment. The other, Jesus Christ, was an extremist for love, truth and goodness, and thereby rose above his environment. So, after all, maybe the South, the nation and the world are in dire need of creative extremists."

Confidential Source One advised that about 1959 Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. visited India briefly ostensibly for the purpose of studying the Ghandi concepts of non-violence.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

Atlanta, Georgia
October 19, 1965

FD 323

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Title | COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE |
| Character | |
| Reference | Letterhead Memorandum, dated and captioned as above, at Atlanta, Georgia. |

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5718) DATE: 9/20/65

FROM: SA ALAN G. SENTINELLA

RE: COMINFIL OF SCLC
IS - C

The May, 1965 issue of "Ebony" magazine, commencing on page 46, published an article captioned "50,000 March on Montgomery." On page 46 of this magazine a photograph appeared of JAMES LETHERER who was indicated to have come from Saginaw, Michigan.

The June, 1965 issue of "Ebony" magazine commencing on page 164 published an article captioned "The Men Behind Martin Luther King." This article reflected photographs of the following individuals on the pages indicated.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Ed Clayton | page 171 |
| Harry Boyte | page 171 |
| Fred Bennett | page 170 |
| Septima Clark | page 171 |
| C. T. Vivian | page 165 |
| Dorothy Cotton | page 171 |
| Andrew J. Young | page 165 |
| Randolph Blackwell | page 165 |
| Carol Hoover | page 171 |
| Bernard Lee | page 165 |
| Bayard Rustin | page 173. |

Copies of these photographs have been prepared. The negatives thereof and reprints are being submitted to pertinent file for each of the aforementioned individuals.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 - 100-5718 (SCLC) | 1 - 157-698 (RANDOLPH BLACKWELL) |
| 1 - 157-658 (ED CLAYTON) | 1 - 157-660 (CAROL HOOVER) |
| 1 - 157-644 (HARRY BOYTE) | 1 - 157-653 (BERNARD LEE) |
| 1 - 157-643 (FRED BENNETT) | 1 - 100-6824 (BAYARD RUSTIN) |
| 1 - 157-418 (SEPTIMA CLARK) | 1 - 157-967 (JAMES LETHERER) |
| 1 - 100-6563 (C. T. VIVIAN) | |
| 1 - 157-639 (DOROTHY COTTON) | |
| 1 - 157-621 (ANDREW YOUNG) | |

AGS:cmp
(13)

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| SERIALIZED | INDEXED |
| FILED | |
| SEP 20 1964 | |
| FBI - ATLANTA | |

(Title) _____

(File No.) 157-698-1A

1. Original, negative and four copies of photos of
subject appearing on page 165 of Ebony magazine,
June 1965 (Lat. 9-15-65 BCE)

Disposition: _____

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| SEP 15 1965 | |
| FBI - ATLANTA | |
| BCE | |

File No. 157-698-1A1Date Received 6/65From _____
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)_____
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)By J. G. Leatnilla
(CITY AND STATE)
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned Yes ☐
No ☐

Description:

Original, negative
and 4 copies of photo
of subject appearing
on page 165 of
Ebony magazine,
June 1965

2 - 4/6/66 [unclear]
1 - [unclear] 8/20/68
1 - Bennis [unclear] 8/7/68



157-698